

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this amendment, claims 1 and 8 are amended. Support can be found from paragraph [0033] of the specification and Fig. 2C. No new matter is introduced. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested for currently pending claims.

Priority. Enclosed herewith is a certified copy of the Taiwanese priority document to perfect Applicant's foreign priority claim.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102. The Office Action rejected claims 1 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Azami et al. (US 2002/0158666). Azami et al. fails to disclose or suggest the front stage circuit periodically generating a pair of non-complementary control signals including a first control signal and a second control signal having different maximum voltage levels in response to a pair of complementary input clock signals. On the contrary, Azami's control signals cited by the Examiner as the first and second control signals are outputs of the two level shifts 650 and 660, which are complementary signals having the same maximum voltage level VDD2 and the same minimum voltage level GND (the solid line of Fig. 4D). Accordingly, claim 1 and claims 2-4 dependent upon claim 1 are novel over the cited reference. Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 4 under Section 102(e).

Based on the above description, allowance of all pending claims 1-10 is respectfully requested. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If there are any remaining issues preventing allowance of the pending claims that may be clarified by telephone, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



Evan R. Witt

Reg. No. 32,512

Attorney for Applicant

Date: January 18, 2005

MADSON & METCALF
Gateway Tower West
15 West South Temple, Suite 900
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101
Telephone: 801/537-1700